



# NEWS RELEASE

Department of the Interior – Bureau of Land Management  
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**For Additional Information:**  
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## **BLM Gives Money to Rural Fire Departments**

CARLSBAD – The U.S. Bureau of Land Management has awarded \$41,000 to southeast New Mexico fire departments to help them fight wildfires, according to BLM-Carlsbad Field Office Manager Leslie Theiss.

“These rural fire-assistance grants are part of the national fire plan. They’re real on-the-ground help our fire-fighting partners. We’re delighted to help them serve their communities and provide depth in fighting wildland fires in southeastern New Mexico,” Theiss said.

Award recipients, amounts and uses are:

- City of Eunice, \$7,000 for foam, personal protection equipment (PPE) and training;
- Dunken/Chaves, \$1,000 for PPE and equipment;
- Sun County/Eddy, \$3,000 for PPE and equipment;
- Maljamar, \$2,000 for equipment;
- Hope/Eddy, \$4,000 for equipment;
- Otis/Eddy, \$4,000 for tank and rescue gear;
- Happy Valley, \$5,000 for PPE and electronic gear;
- Eddy County Fire Marshal, \$9,000 for training equipment, and
- Magala/Eddy, \$6,000 for training and equipment.

The grants are made to rural fire departments that have a substantial role in protecting federal lands. The local communities in which the recipient departments are located also match at least 10 percent of the award amount.

Additional information about BLM’s rural fire assistance is available by calling Paul Schmidtke, 885-4181.